

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.





Agriculture, Horticulture, Live Stock and Rural Economy,

THE OLDEST AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN MARYLAND, AND FOR TEN YEARS THE ONLY ONE.

AND NEW FARM.

Vol. XXV.

BALTIMORE, June 1888.

No. 6.

ANSWER SOFTLY.

BY JENNIE M. DAVIS.

Softly answer words of wrath :
 It will brighten all thy path,
 If, when angry words do rise,
 Thou dost give but soft replies.
 Voices sweet were meant to bring
 Comfort to the suffering,
 Purest thought and feeling grow,
 Not where angry seed we sow,

Softly answer words of wrath :
 Life too much of sorrow hath,
 And we grieve each other sore,
 When for evil we give more ;
 And time's rugged, rapid tide,
 Rushes onward at thy side,
 Words of anger said to-day,
 They may never pass away.

And we never, never know
 Ah, how heavy sets the woe,
 Or, how deep the shadow lies,
 That from anger did arise.
 Sweetest blossoms on Life's tree
 Thou may'st have for thine to be,
 If, when angry words do rise,
 Thou dost give but soft replies.

TRUSTS.

Once more we write about trusts. They are fast becoming the scourge of our country. It is not necessary that we go over the ground of their formation and their purpose. It is only necessary to state that they are increasing in boldness, in their defiance of law, and in their outrage of all moral principle. They are taking hold of everything necessary to the enjoyment of human life, paralyzing trade, ruining merchant houses which have stood for generations, grinding the poor by their extortions, beating down the producers to add to their piratical gains, building up the most gigantic monopolies this world has ever seen.

They can be reached in only one way, by placing men in our legislative halls who will treat these heartless combinations as they would any other pestilence, and drive them out of the country. They must be destroyed as we would destroy any other

immoral and deadly scourge. Their formation to control prices and prey upon the substance of producers and consumers should be prohibited by law; and this is the work which must be done at the ballot box.

They stand in the position of middle men, but they lose the character which has usually redeemed the character of middle men in the past. They do not pretend that they will accommodate either of the parties between whom they stand. They drive away everyone who would so accommodate and then arbitrarily dictate prices to both parties, taking for themselves the bulk of the property for their insolent service.

When will farmers, who are the great sufferers by these wholesale monopolists, learn to place such men in our legislatures as will crush out these gigantic criminals? They are revelling now in the possession of millions torn unjustly from you. Every farmer's home in our country is less comfortable, his family must go more poorly clothed, his debts must be paid more slowly, the paint to preserve his buildings must be put off from year to year, he must do without his improved implements, he must use less of fertilizer on his fields, he must begrudge the schooling for his children and the help to his church, all that the worthless drones who manipulate these trusts may revel in luxury at his expense.

The time is fast approaching when our people must inaugurate a revival of honor and right as the principle of action in every day life, or they will become a poverty-stricken class. These trusts threaten the destruction of all sense of justice and are undermining the very foundation of public honesty. They are a barefaced endeavor to rob our country of those elements of virtue necessary to insure its stability.

THE FARMER PRESIDENT.

We are sometimes told that if farmers would attend to those elections which occur at their doors, and elect farmers to the Legislature that would be enough for them to do.

We know that would be a great work accomplished, and we heartily appreciate the necessity of farmers sending to our State Legislatures farmer law makers. We have a very large sufficiency of demagogues who impose upon farmers, promising the very best attention to their interests, but as soon as elected ignoring the greatest needs of the farmers and working for other objects in everyway opposed to their best interests. Let us have, then, the farmers in our Legislatures. But why stop there? Certainly we need them in Congress. We have had a few good farmers there and during the past few years they have done well for us. Being men of vast wealth, however, they have not realized the extent of the benefit which could be conferred by the Government upon the farmers of the country. We need more farmers there, and such as come into closer sympathy with the great body of the farmers who feel most the various changes which take place in the policy of the Government.

And why stop here? We need a farmer President as much as we need legislators in States or in Washington. The President gives voice to those principles which mould the actions of parties, and we have an exemplification of the power of his words in the tariff message of Mr. Cleveland. Farmers need nothing more than this to show the great need of a Farmer for President of the United States. Those agricultural papers which have advocated consistently the interests of the agricultural community should not be led away with the idea that to attend primaries and "putter about" district polls, and county

and even State representatives is enough. This is all proper and right; but there is somewhat higher than this work. Aim high, and do not be satisfied with anyone's leavings. The power is yours to secure your ends.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT AND THE LABOR BUREAU.

We have not the slightest objection to a Labor Bureau in connexion with the General Government; but we do have an objection to its being added to the work of the Agricultural Department of the Government.

A Labor Bureau may in itself accomplish a great amount of good for the country; and while we see labor running wild in useless strikes and criminal boycotts, we become satisfied that government has a mission which sooner or later must be undertaken by it. We do not read of a single strike of any magnitude which is not accompanied by lawless acts of violence and injury or loss of life to individual laborers. Intense feelings of lawlessness are the result of strikes and boycotts; for at present it is emphatically the taking of the law into their own hands, and an attempt to right grievances without the aid of law. This is the first step towards disregarding the obligations of honesty of dealings in common life and worse must follow. Need will therefore come for governmental action in the field of labor, and a Labor Bureau may become a necessity.

Here comes in the "rub," however. Why attach this to the Agricultural Department? It belongs to the Department of the Interior. The Agricultural Department deals with an entirely different class, and with objects utterly at variance with these others. It has to do with the

most stable and conservative element in the country, while these others are the most anarchical, visionary and unreliable of any of the elements. While we assert this, it is not to say that they are a less needed or a less important factor in the country's future; but it is to show that the two classes should not be placed under one class administration.

The Agricultural Department, if faithful to agricultural interests, will have always as much as it can take care of in this field, without stepping into the perplexing conflicts of capital and labor and attempting a work which is wholly foreign to it. The interests of agriculture are becoming the great interests of our country and every year is adding emphasis to the fact that the governing power will ere long pass so decidedly into the hands of the farmers that the Agricultural Department will overshadow in importance all other Departments of the government. Let it be a purely Agricultural Department, then; not hampered by a host of outside issues, which belong to some of the other spheres of life, and which may be thrown in only to distract attention, and perhaps invite unjust criticism against the Department.

CULTIVATING CORN.

The first necessity is the proper planting of corn. After the ground has been brought into a fine tilth, as free from lumps as is possible, mark it off and plant in rows, about eighteen inches apart in the row, and when up thin to one stalk in a place. We believe this has been demonstrated to be the best method of planting. Some plant the rows three and a half feet apart, and some four feet apart. This depends upon the nature of the soil somewhat; but we have chosen the distance of four feet. However, corn

is generally planted here before this number of the magazine reaches its readers. The after cultivation is now most important.

Keep the corn clean. Allow no weeds to eat away the substance which should go to nourish the corn. Commence as soon as the rows can be seen and keep steadily at work. So long as you can attack the weeds while young and tender your work will be easy. Between the rows it is easily done and it only requires a little care with the cultivator and horse. In the rows the hands and the hoe must come into use and patience and skill must be exercised.

Thin out the rows as early as possible, for less injury will be done than if you wait until the stalks get to be heavy. We have found that vacant places in the row can be filled by carefully transplanting some of the extra plants, and they have done well where so transplanted. We have repeatedly experimented, marking the plants with plain stakes, and have invariably found them equal to any others in the field as to produce.

The great object of cultivation aside from killing the weeds, is to keep the surface of the soil open, so that it can absorb whatever is needed from the atmosphere to nourish the corn. The soil when kept in this condition will get a portion of moisture in the dryest season, will get also much needed ammonia and the plants are thus greatly helped.

But corn roots grow near the surface and only the top of the soil needs to be kept open to have them derive all needful benefit. If the cultivation is deep enough to injure any of the roots, of course the crop suffers. Cultivate often, but always just on the surface—shallow cultivation is the rule.

Subscribe to the MARYLAND FARMER, with a premium, only \$1.00 per year.

OUR OWN ITEMS.

Unless some method is discovered to exterminate the English sparrow, the farmer's most useful birds will shortly be driven from the country, and he will suffer fearfully from both insects and sparrows.

* *

As the hot days approach the weeds will grow with their accustomed vigor—give them no quarter.

* *

As you pass through the corn field watch for the missing stalks and be sure to fill all the vacant places.

* *

We have heretofore spoken against the use of arsenic as insect destroyers. Paris Green, London Purple, White Arsenic and many others are arsenic poisons. Use Pyrethrum.

* *

If you have sprayed your orchard with Paris Green or London Purple, be sure and keep your children, your horses, your cows, your swine, your chickens out of that orchard. It is winking at murder to allow them to go there.

* *

Farmers should organize so that they shall not be at the mercy of "trusts." A good commission merchant is no doubt desirable as an agent—a dishonest one is almost as bad as a "trust" monopoly.

* *

Mowers and reapers are now necessary implements on the farm. Have good ones and be sure they are in perfect order, so that they can be used without delay when the time comes. Try them and know whether they will work. After resting for a year they must need some attention.

* *

Watch your pasture fields. If any portions are passed by in the grazing, as

often is the case, a light sprinkling of salt will attract the stock and they will feast on it.

* * *

The farming of the future must be gradually contracted in the number of acres. Higher cultivation, more remunerative crops. Less hard work over broad fields and closer attention to special paying crops on the fields that surround the house. More pasture, more stock and plenty of ensilage—this insures the purchase of less commercial fertilizer and the very best results from the contents of the barn yard.

* * *

A manure cellar under a barn is an abomination. Have it outside of the barn under a shed.

* * *

If you keep bees, be sure that you keep them away from orchards which have been sprayed with arsenic insecticides. Some hives have been almost depopulated. Would it not be even better to use something else on the orchards.

* * *

It is always well to be accommodating; but let not your kindness go so far as to encourage the vampires who would suck the last drop of your blood—supporting “trusts,” “monopolies,” heavy tax tariffs, high rates of interest, exorbitant charges and commissions, unreasonable freights. Set your face against these things and kindly oppose those who would support them.

AN uncertain foundation endangers the house. Use Warner's Log Cabin Hops and Buchu Remedy. Put the foundation of health—the stomach—in proper order. Sold by druggists generally.

For the Maryland Farmer.

THE TARIFF AND FARMER'S WAGES.

One of the truest bits of philosophy concerning the tariff was the much desired statement of Genl. Hancock's that the tariff was largely a local question. Certain localities and industries are “protected,” i. e. rewarded, at the expense of other localities and other industries. For example, people who use woolen goods, tropical fruit, sugar, rice, etc., must pay more for such articles than they could buy them for if they were not protected, and the particular localities where these things are produced are protected at the expense of other localities. It is so clearly to the interest of certain manufacturing districts in New England and rice and tobacco growing districts of the south to have the present tariff continued that the wonder is that there are any tariff reformers in these districts.

It is very easy to see what localities and industries are being abnormally compensated for their products. The cities and towns are growing with marvellous rapidity, while the country districts are if anything being depopulated. The argument may be used that this will decrease the competition between farmers and increase their profits. This would be true were it not that the farmer has to do far more than his share toward supporting these city residents and bear more than his share of the burdens of supporting the government. Another thing which is operating against the farmer is the competition in the matter of labor. The “protected” industries can and do pay at least twice as much for the same labor as the farmer can afford to, although the pay for all labor or the compensation for it comes in all cases from the farmer. We are importing millions of working men from the towns and cities of Europe, but comparatively few of

the peasantry who are able and willing to work on the farms. No wonder town lots are booming while farming lands go a begging. The abnormal wages paid the employees of certain industries is bringing to this country the very classes who are least likely to benefit the farmer. True they must live on the products of the land and make a market for farm produce, but they must first be given the necessary funds to buy these products and these funds must come from the farmers. In other words things are so arranged with the aid of the tariff that the American farmer has to support the paupers of the world who are dumped on our shores. The Massachusetts Bureau of Wages reports that the average wages paid employees in the cotton mills of that State is \$9.44 per week or \$1.56 per day. To this must be added say 20 per cent. profit for the owners of the mills and it will be seen at once that the employees and owners of the cotton mills are being compensated for the labor vastly better than the farmer. The fact is the farmers of America are not getting more than about one half as much for their products as they are legitimately entitled to. The difference between what they get and what they ought to have is making the millionaires of our cities, creating and supporting gigantic trusts, and maintaining the millions of tramps and paupers who live almost without doing any labor at all in our large cities and towns.

J. H. GRIFFITH.

Eest Rockaway, N. Y.

The bird that flutters least in the air remains longest on the wing. The effects of Warner's Log Cabin Hops and Buchu Remedy are lasting because it puts the stomach in good working order, and thus the whole system is restored to its normal, healthy condition.

For the Maryland Farmer.

FARMER'S WIVES.

There is a great deal being written and printed upon the hard life of the farmer's wife. Now this may be all right; but it seems to me there is altogether too much of this complaining and too much written upon this subject for the good of all. A farmer's wife does not have any harder life than the generality of wives. She is no more overworked than the laborer's, or the merchant's wife. Compare her life with that of other women: It does not consist of a life between the four brick walls of her home, as does that of all women except the farmer's wife. Her life is one of constant change and variation, from house to garden, to fields, and back to the house again.

A city or town woman's life might be very easily compared to a treadmill, going over the same thing day after day, without ever stopping to think of a change or a day from home with the green fields and the beauties of nature. No! no! It is these that have the hardest lives to live, working as best they can, only to dream of an easier life hereafter.

It seems to me as though the farmers' wives have every thing to make their lives happy ones. It is very true there are times when they, as well as their city sisters, have heavy burdens put upon them; but they can look through the passing clouds and see the rest that is in store for them beyond, while their sisters, have only now and then a ray of light to encourage them, and that faint ray is very apt to be lost in the busy day.

So let us hear less of the trials of what others are pleased to call our overworked farmers' wives, and more of the happiness and comforts of their homes compared with that of our laboring classes in the city. It is this constant harping upon the hard life of the farmers and their

family that is continually driving the young to look for something that they think is easier.

But, do they find it?

I think not.

Stick to the farms, all of you that have such a chance for ease and comfort, and make everything beautiful, and you will have a life that all will envy you.

AZILE.

President Alvord.

Major Alvord has been elected president of the Maryland Agricultural College and Experiment Station, and we understand that he will accept. This will take him from the Massachusetts College where he has done excellent work, as professor of agriculture, and for the presidency of which he was the most prominent candidate. While sorry to lose him from Massachusetts we congratulate the Maryland authorities on securing so competent a gentleman for the responsible position.—*New England Farmer.*

ENGLISH SPARROWS.

The following resolution was passed at the April meeting of the Cecil Farmers' Club. We copy from *The Cecil Whig*.

"WHEREAS, The destruction to the grain and fruit produced in the United States by the English sparrow is enormous, and is generally on the increase in consequence of the rapid multiplication of the sparrows, and there is no possibility of destroying them by individual effort, and there is a large surplus in the United States treasury for which the government has no need, and

has been drawn from the tillers of the soil, therefore

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this club that a part of this surplus should be appropriated to the destruction of this pest."

The English sparrow has become indeed one of the most serious problems with which the farmers of our country have to contend, in the way of agents damaging to the crops. They are also of equal damage to the song birds, and the insectivorous birds of our country.

ENRICHING THE SOIL.

The following are thoughtful items taken from the *Mirror and Farmer*:

Mineral manures alone have added very slightly to the produce grown upon the unmanured land.

Manures containing nitric acid alone, or some compound of nitrogen which is easily nitrified, have considerably increased the crop.

The amount of nitrogen supplied in the manures is very much in excess of the amount recovered in the increase of the crops.

Manures consisting of potash, phosphoric acid and ammonia, or nitrates, appear competent to grow large crops of wheat continuously.

A given weight of nitrogen as nitric acid has produced more growth in the wheat crop than the same weight of nitrogen in ammonium salts.

Dung applied to land in the ordinary processes of agriculture will not be entirely exhausted until a considerable number of years have elapsed from the time of its application.

When dung is applied continuously to

WHEREAS, A large part of this money

land, the accumulation of unexhausted fertility becomes very large, and the removal of crops of the substance accumulated would extend over a long series of years.

After a certain amount of growth has been reached, each increase of growth requires a proportional larger application of manure. When the price of grain is high, larger crops can be grown more profitably than when the price is low.

Although so much soil fertility has been removed the stock that remains would appear to be sufficient to grow crops of wheat for a very long period; the produce, however, must in process of time necessarily be lower than it has hitherto been.

When farmyard dung is employed to grow wheat, a considerably larger amount of nitrogen must be applied to produce a given increase in the crop, as much of the nitrogen contained in the dung is not in active condition.

GATHERED CRUMBS.

Attend the farmers' meeting when you can, and don't be afraid to talk and ask questions.

After sweeping your stove chimneys be sure and scatter the soot over the flower beds in the garden, for it is the best manure in the world for them, as the carbon brings out more brilliancy than anything else.

It is a curious fact that wasp nests sometimes take fire, as it is supposed by the chemical action of the wax upon the material of which the nest is composed. Undoubtedly many fires of unknown origin in hay-stacks and farm buildings may thus be accounted for.

A Cape Cod farmer says: "This larnin' ev'ry girl to play on the pianner, and ev'ry

boy to be a book-keeper, will make pertaters five dollars a bushel afore many years."

Rabbits are becoming so numerous in Nebraska that their destruction is called for by a State law. It is no unusual sight to see a drove of several hundred.

The rabbit war in New Zealand and Australia is becoming more serious than ever. The climate of Australia suits the rabbits admirably, and so does the sparseness of the population. The result is that the rabbits hold the field, and they occupy and possess nearly 40,000,000 acres of land in Victoria. They have crossed the Murray and are continuing their devastating march northward. South Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand have all suffered to an extent that it is almost impossible to estimate.

A correspondent of the *New York Tribune* says that all the errors he ever committed are directly traceable to the contaminating example and influence of his father's hired help. He emphasizes the fact that farmers should employ none but reputable help and even then observe the utmost vigilance to prevent or nip in the bud any influence of an immoral character.

It would often pay a farmer to cut down a hill or straighten a curve at his own expense if he could not get the town or his neighbors to help him. There is altogether too much of the biting off one's nose to spite one's face policy about improvements in country roads.

As kerosene has been found excellent when used in the soapsuds for washing, care should be taken not to apply such soapsuds to peach trees or sprinkle it on the ground around them. Kerosene is almost instantly fatal to peach trees, only a few drops being sufficient to kill a vigorous tree.

Many believe that corn fodder has a

higher nutritive value if cut when the grain is well formed. Dr. Collier has made more than 100 analyses of corn fodder in all stages of growth, which prove that the fodder actually increases in nutritive value until the ears shall have become ripe.

Buhach, like almost all other insecticides,

is almost always applied in a decidedly wasteful manner. The genuine article is strong enough to be entirely effective in killing almost any kind of insects, even when thoroughly mixed with five times its bulk of flour, air-slacked lime, soot, finely sifted ashes or other dust-like material.

Buhach is another name for Pyrethrum.

FLEECE-STOCK.

SHEEP.

In other countries sheep are raised principally for their flesh, and the wool is considered of secondary importance. The same idea must become the prevailing feeling in this country, as the decrease of tariff on wool points that way. At present the great "trust" monopolists render all thoughts of profit on wool deceptive, for they can place whatever price they choose on it and the farmer is so situated that he is forced to accept their dictation.

At the same time beef and pork—with pleuro-pneumonia and cholera so prevalent and not likely to abate—are becoming less and less valuable as food, so that the masses are preferring mutton, which up to the present has no such diseased associations connected with it. Mutton is destined to become more extensively in demand for food, and the farmer must make his profit in that direction.

THERE is a strong rivalry between the Oxfords and Shropshires for superiority as mutton breeds. They are very large in size, frequently weighing three hundred and fifty pounds each, with marble flesh of good quality. As a first cross for the

native sheep the Southdown is claimed to be the best breed.

SINCE 1860 the average amount of wool grown on each sheep has doubled. In that year the product was two and one half pounds per sheep; now it is five pounds. This has been accomplished by the grading up of common flocks and improving them by the use of merino rams.

GEN. CASSIUS M. CLAY, one of the oldest of the prominent sheep breeders in this country, having begun his flock of Southdowns in 1855, says that during all these years his flock has never been invaded with any contagious disease. Meantime he has nearly doubled the weight of both fleece and carcass and materially increased the fineness and spread of the fleece, so that it covers all parts of the sheep, forehead, jaws and legs. This is an effectual answer to the charge that sheep degenerate in America.

PAIN masters the mind. Avoid the disease known as Catarrh by using Warner's Log Cabin Rose Cream.

BUTTER.

The great mass of the butter which is now coming to market is not worthy the name of butter. The "roll" butter is all offensive to taste and smell. Large quantities are received daily by the dealers, thrown into barrels and treated as grease, to be sold for whatever can be obtained for it. Very little of it is fit for table use, and the poor cannot get any that is free from rank odors, without paying a high price for it. They must use that which is sour or bitter or rancid, or they must go without.

Farmers are not getting more for their butter than when "oleo" was free; for those who buy expect to throw much of it into the waste barrels. The balance must be sold at a high price to make the purchaser whole even then. We would plead with those farmers who have no access to creameries to learn how to make good butter. It is all that can possibly save them in time to come against the competition with imitation butter, butterine, and mixtures of beef fat, butter and milk. It is all right just at present; but we are situated where we can feel the pulse of the great body of consumers, and mutterings are very expressive of discontent with what is sold to them for good butter. They rather be cheated with something that is palatable, than eat real butter which is strong or tainted. Good sweet butter must be plentiful and at a moderate price, or the future will not remain all bright.

A lady, who resolved last spring that she would make first-class butter, began, and asked the commission man to mention defects. Her butter within three months went up to the top line and it stays there. There is a big difference between the bottom and the top in the price, with bills to pay and comforts to buy.

ENSILAGE.

Prepare now for the crop which shall be needed as ensilage, the cheapest and best food for stock during the winter. It is about decided that a large sweet corn gives the best ensilage when all things are taken into consideration. The stalk and leaves have more nourishment, and as to the product give a decidedly better quality of milk, butter and cheese. Plant it quite thick on good soil and let it grow until the corn is in the dough, or is just beginning to glaze. Then cut it with an ensilage cutter and pack it in the silo.

It is not necessary to hasten the work, but pack it well and cover it with moderate pressure. It can be added to at any time during the Fall without injury, and no danger of its spoiling. The idea of its injuring the stock need not be feared, and in the winter every kind of stock even to chickens and doves will eat it with a relish. It brings an abundance of milk, and it does not impart any unpleasant taste to butter even when it is a little off of sweetness. A very little attention, however, will enable any farmer to keep it bright and sweet, when nothing ever invented in the way of food for stock is better or more profitable.

**SOME ITEMS OF CARE
ABOUT MILK.**

Be sure that the cows from which you use milk are not diseased. In the city this cannot always be known, and no doubt many cases of sickness grow out of the use of diseased cow's milk. It is yet fresh in our mind the great excitement caused in New York by the pictures of distillery fed cows in Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper years ago. It was a lesson we have never forgotten from that day to this.

Milk tastes from bad association sooner

than any other production. If a cow eats onions or garlic it passes at once into the milk giving it a flavor that no one can possibly admire. If the cow is allowed to drink stagnant water the milk shows it. Too great care cannot be exercised in these matters—weeds, horse litter, turnip tops, pass into the milk and its sweetness is gone.

If cows are milked in a barn smelling rank from ammonia, or where the surroundings are full of foul odors, be sure that the milk will be tainted and it will be impossible to guard against it. The thin stream from the teats as it passes through the air to the milk pail is so exposed to any contamination in the atmosphere that it must absorb it. They should be milked where the air is pure and sweet.

For the same reason milk should always be kept where the air is pure and nothing of a strong smell, such as fish or onions, should be in the same room with it.

Milk is better if the cows have a supply of salt to which they can go whenever they have any desire to do so. A large lump of rock salt in their pasture is therefore desirable.

All pouring, stirring or handling of milk or cream should be done where the air is cool and pure, so that no taints may come to it.

PROFESSOR ARNOLD clearly proved the wastefulness of giving corn meal to cattle without carefully mixing it with more bulky food. He sent four fat steers to the butcher, and in the slaughter-house, just before they were killed, he gave to each a peck of corn meal. As soon as they were opened the professor found that all the meal had reached the fourth stomach, where thorough digestion is out of the question. Of course, careful feeders

usually mix meal with chaff, but even then it gets more or less sifted through the chaff and eaten separately, unless the chaff be dampened so that the meal will adhere to it.

A Pleasant Sale.

We have received the report of the sale of Aberdeen Angus Cattle which took place in Chicago, April 26, the property of T. W. Harvey, of Turlington, Neb. It must have been truly gratifying to the owner to see how greatly interested the farming public were in his extraordinarily fine stock.

18 Females sold for \$6760.00, an average of \$375.50 each. 10 Males sold for \$375.00, an average of \$375.00 each.

It will be remembered that Mr. Harvey's Aberdeen Angus Cattle carried off the chief prizes for beef cattle at the Chicago Fat Stock Show. The highest price for a single animal was \$700.00, for Victoria of Turlington 4715—5 years old.

It is time now, in June, to have the hogs enjoying pasture privileges. They always do better in the field than anywhere else and need very little food besides that supplied in a field and wood lot. Health, growth and a good degree of solid flesh—not fat—are given them by this treatment. This is just what is needed until put up in the fall for quick fattening.

THE BEST FARM.

Now, friend, have you the best farm in your circle of acquaintances? Certainly you should have. Though it may not be more than twenty acres, it should be the best twenty acres to be found. If it be a hundred and twenty acres it should be the best, acre compared with acre, to be found in your county. If it is not so now, you

can make it the best. But, how? Ah, this is the point to study, and you are the one to find out. But don't look at your neighbor's flourishing acres and then despair. If you see anything there worth copying, copy it, and when you copy improve upon it. This is the secret of getting the best. Go with your eyes wide open, and whenever you see anything No. 1, carry it home with you and on your own farm make it * No. 1, A.

Every farm is open for improvement, and no man has a monopoly of enriching, working and realizing the fruits of honest labor. The size of a crop, however, is not always the sign of the best acre; another thing must be taken into consideration—

the cost of the crop and the amount it brings in the market. The produce of a single acre may bring a profit of \$300, while one yielding apparently a much larger crop may yield a profit of scarcely \$100! Which is the best? It is scarcely necessary to ask the question; but do not work with a wrong idea. If you can get the best crop both in quantity and profit, do it; but do not sacrifice the profit to the mere appearance of magnitude. We occasionally read of profits amounting to a thousand dollars or more from a single acre; and while it is well to aspire even to this, please do not be too sanguine about getting it except after years of preparation.

POULTRY.

GROWING INTEREST.

Since the publication of our March Poultry Extra, we have had a very large amount of inquiry from our subscribers on the subject of poultry keeping and the profits of poultry as a business. The interest in everything relating to poultry is greatly on the increase, and many who have kept poultry all their lives wish to learn the latest improvements and the best methods of keeping poultry in the light of recent experiments. So many are the inquiries about incubators and brooders, that we have spent hours with those who have visited our office, where we have one of the very best incubators yet invented.

Modern methods of raising chickens for market have settled the question as to the proper mode of proceeding, and we are certain that the time of the hen is too precious to be spent in sitting on a nest of a few eggs and then spending weeks in the

care of a few chicks. The hen is the machine to supply eggs of the quality needed by us, and the incubator will turn them readily into live stock, while the artificial mother will do all necessary work in brooding over the young.

The hen may be fed in such a manner that she will seldom desire to sit; but will turn out eggs with great facility; or, if she ever desires to sit, if fed properly, it will be but a slight work to persuade her that you prefer her to keep to the egg business. Food for this purpose should not be of a fat producing character and should not be too abundant. The hen must be fed and trained for the object you have in view—just as you would train a race horse, by the proper food and by a reasonable allowance.

Everything about the raising of poultry is getting to be on a scientific principle reduced to a practical form. It is a study and a very interesting and profitable study

also. We are very glad to see this growing interest; for we believe that poultry is a much better food than pork and it can be grown quite as cheaply. For years to come, however, it will command a much better price than pork, although it will be a very happy day when the masses can buy poultry and eggs, if they desire, for what they now pay for beef and pork.

It is probably true, that the poultry could never become a constant article of food, as are beef and pork at present; but it would certainly be a blessing to our country, if the poultry could be supplied in sufficient quantities and at a price which would enable the masses to use it as fully as the other, and divide the character of their diet somewhat.

NESTS.

Do not trouble yourself about buying any patented nest boxes; anyone who has the least mechanical skill can make nest boxes for poultry, as good as the best patented article.

A nest box should be about fourteen inches square, and as high as it is wide. A larger one than this invites trouble from two hens wishing to lay at the same time in the same nest, and consequently broken eggs, and perhaps the habit learned of eating the eggs as soon as laid.

The nest box should have an entrance small enough so that a hen in the nest will be able to keep any visiting hen at a respectful distance. It should be so made that the chickens will not attempt to roost upon it; and if the entrance has a strip of sheet iron across the bottom, the sharp edge will prevent any roosting there, and keep the inside of the box from becoming filthy.

Although not necessary, it is convenient when each nest box has a hinged back so

that the nests can be examined at any time and with the minimum of trouble.

Where the poultry quarters are small, the nest boxes can be placed side by side and under the dropping board; but we prefer to have them in different localities, and otherwise protected.

Poultry, when about to lay, like concealment. This is inherited as it belongs to every species of the feathered race. It is best to take this disposition into account, and conceal the approach to the nest in some degree. If the opening is next to the wall, and a shelf covers the space, that is sufficient, and while it satisfies the hens, it darkens the nests to the degree necessary to prevent any disposition to eat the eggs after they are laid.

The best material for the nests consists of fine cedar shavings, or, if these are scarce, cedar sawdust. Such a nest is almost insect proof. Next to this we would use pitch pine shavings or sawdust; the particular insects of poultry are not partial to this; and if gathered promptly the pitchy flavor will not injure the eggs; but gather them promptly. Coal oil should never be used in the nest, for it destroys the eggs. Of course hay will make a good nest, but it should have a plentiful supply of some insecticide sprinkled over it, and should be frequently changed. The same may be said of straw, or leaves or any other substance not objectionable to insects—a sprinkling of insecticide must be given.

In cleaning nest boxes the best way is to make a bright blaze and hold the box in it long enough to have every part of it slightly scorched by the flame.

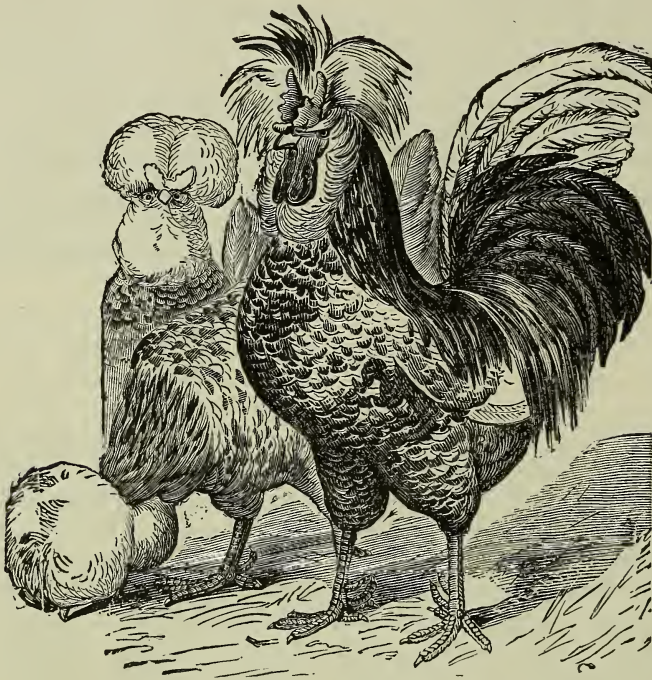
Some think nest eggs are of no use and that the hens will do just as well without them. We are among those who have tried the experiment thoroughly and have chosen the nest eggs, and plenty of them. We would use porcelain nest eggs, never ordinary eggs. If plenty of porcelain eggs

are used, it will often break up the disposition to eat the eggs. If the nests, however, are darkened somewhat the hen seldom stops to peck at the eggs. We do not object to having two or three porcelain nest eggs in a single nest.

In warm weather nest boxes in the open air and partly hidden away in corners or

in bushes have proved quite attractive to the poultry.

All these things are little matters to be sure; but they are items taught by a long experience, and it is by attention to such little things that the poultry business becomes a success.



HOUDANS.

We give under our Poultry heading a cut of these French favorite chickens. They are one of the very few non-sitting breeds which are good table fowls as well as layers. They are not as hardy as some other breeds; but they bear the climate here and further South without injury. The peculiar head gear which appears so prominent is rather a detriment than a benefit. Besides being the source of sickness when it gets soaked with rain, it often prevents their seeing their enemies very readily. They are, however, a

picturesque fowl upon the lawn, of good bearing and always attractive to their owner and his guests. For many good qualities they stand No. 1 in their native country—France.

GAPES.

One of the greatest and most distressing scourges in the eyes of the poultry raiser is the gapes. The little chicks evidently suffer much themselves and unless relieved cannot long survive. After they have become seriously sick, it is hard to cure

them; for the great danger is that what will kill and dislodge the worms in the windpipe will frequently kill the chick.

Mixing turpentine in the feed is considered a good remedy; some have used dry sulphur, blowing it into the throat and claim success; some have dipped a feather into turpentine and then thrust it down the throat; some have bent a fine wire into a loop and with it succeeded in dislodging the worms. Other violent remedies have been used; but we have seldom seen a success that could pay for the trouble.

The best method is to prevent the chicks from getting the gapes. This is done by keeping them off from the ground, keeping them from angle worms, and providing them with clean quarters on a hard floor until they are about four weeks old. This of course is somewhat troublesome, and unless many of the flock are apt to be badly affected or the chicks are of large value, the cost may be more than the gain. Yet this is the only method of prevention that we now can recommend.

Milk for Chicks.

One of the very best kinds of food for chicks, and for that matter, for grown fowls as well—is milk. In whatever form you can supply it the gain is great. Mix their food with it, or give it as a drink; nothing is better for them. From the time of their first running around until they die of old age, it is just what they need for growth, health, eggs or sweet flesh.

REGULATE the Regulator. With pure blood comes good health. Use Warner's Log Cabin Sarsaparilla and secure both. Best remedy. Largest bottle. For sale by all druggists.

INCUBATORS.

Any one who would raise poultry for market and make a profit by it should certainly have an incubator and brooder. But no one should expect to get rich the first year. It always takes time to become familiar with the workings of the incubator and the profits increase in proportion to the experience gained. It is far better to have this machine than to be troubled with hens as hatchers and mothers. Keep the hens at work shelling out the eggs, but have improved appliances for the other departments.

WHILE we do not advise an amateur to start in on too high-priced fowls, we do advise farmers who keep poultry, to improve their stock by the addition of pure bred male birds. Light Brahmas on ordinary barnyard stock, will give a good table fowl. Next season keep only the choicest pullets from this cross, and use Light Brahma male birds again. In this way you can inexpensively improve your flock, having them grow better and better each year. It is a mistake to get fancy fowls, and treat them like song birds, petting, pampering, and dosing them like children. (Not like children should be treated, by the way, but as they too often are.) It is because these fancy fowls lead such artificial lives that they so easily fall ill, lay few eggs, and these often infertile. The thing to breed for, is the most pounds of flesh, and the greatest number of eggs.—*Poultry Monthly*.

IN laying out your work for the season give the garden a liberal share of attention. It may not be labor which will bring great returns in money, but it is certain to do so in family health and comfort.

THE
MARYLAND FARMER
 AND
 NEW FARM.

WALWORTH & Co.,

Editors and Publishers.

Agriculture, Live Stock and Rural Economy,

Oldest Agricultural Journal in Maryland and
 for ten years the only one.

27 EAST PRATT STREET,
 BALTIMORE, MD.

BALTIMORE, June 1888.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

One Copy, one year in advance,	\$	1 00
Club Rates, 5 copies one year in advance	- - - -	4 00
" " 10	" - - - -	7 50
" " 20	" - - - -	14 00
" " 50	" - - - -	32 50
" " 100	" - - - -	60 00

Subscription Price, if not paid in advance, will be at the old rate, \$1 50 per year, and positively no deduction.

We invite our subscribers to read well the terms of subscription: \$1.00 a year if paid IN ADVANCE, \$1.50 if not paid until the close of the year.

Unless notified to stop, and paid up in full at the time of notification, it will be at the option of the publisher whether the magazine is stopped or continued. If notified to stop and paid up in full, it will always be stopped promptly.

If 5000 are allowed to run over a single number without paying, it is a cost to us of \$500., which we cannot afford to lose. Few of our subscribers take this into consideration. While we like to be as generous as possible, let us have a little justice on both sides.

If in sending in your subscription at any time in advance, you say "stop when this expires," the magazine will stop coming to you, unless you renew your subscription.

These terms will be strictly adhered to by the present proprietors.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING

	1 mo.	3 mo.	6 mo.	1 year.
One Inch	\$ 1.50	\$ 4.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 12.00
Quarter Page	6.50	15.00	22.50	35.00
Half Page	12.00	25.00	40.00	70.00
One Page	20.00	45.00	75.00	120.00

Job Printing of every description—good work—low prices—prompt service—at the MARYLAND FARMER Printing Office.

The MARYLAND FARMER, we are glad to say is meeting with many warm commendations from all quarters, and the articles which speak of the farmer's interests and work are meeting a large circulation by being copied extensively into other agricultural journals, or into papers having an agricultural department. Nothing can gratify us more than to meet unexpectedly in some distant exchange some familiar thought which we have clothed for the MARYLAND FARMER, and then to see at the close the accustomed credit. Our many prized exchanges who have favored us with pleasant words will accept our thanks.

LEAVING THE FARMS.

Much is written and said about the smart and spirited young people leaving the farms. A great mistake is in this idea. Not the smart and spirited; but the restless, lazy ones, who hope to get a living without work are the class who are leaving the farms. Very seldom does a smart young man—who is intelligent enough to understand his work and at the same time willing to do it faithfully—very seldom does such a one leave the farm. At the present day, less than ever before, are the earnest young people disposed to abandon the best pursuit of life, for the uncertain gains of any of the professions, or of mercantile chances. Of course some who have never learned the vast number of failures in all other pursuits will make the venture; but the smart young man has the knowledge of his own occupation thoroughly acquired and also realizes the danger of failure, with its terrible agony on heart and brain, and he keeps on the farm. He is free from the temptations that lurk in the

business centres of a great city and he avoids the disgrace as well as the sense of wrong doing which will inevitably become associated with him in such occupations, unless he is exceptionally favored.

We have had a great opportunity of observing the character of those who leave the country, and as a general thing we have found them persons of a flighty disposition, discontented under all circumstances, or young men who were generally disposed to be "fast" and who felt a reckless disregard as to the future. Some of these have of course waked up in time to the realities of life and have done well in other than farm pursuits; but the great mass of them have sunk rapidly to fill the positions of the "rabble" which are a disgrace to our cities and a shame to the whole country.

It is hard for the young, in the city born and bred, to learn the work and enjoy the life of the farm, perhaps; and yet vastly more have left the city life and mercantile pursuits and become successful farmers than the reverse. Only the most intelligent of the city dwellers seek the farm, and they do it generally because they understand the very great advantages of the life in the country—the comforts that belong to such a life, its freedom from great anxieties, its comparative freedom from large responsibilities and cares. Such city men and women who are free from lazy, idle longings after a condition of "do-nothingness," and whose souls are rich in the desires of an honest life to be spent in faithful work and the doing of the greatest good to themselves and to their neighbors make the mass of those who leave the city for the country.

Every active, successful business man has longings for the green fields and a country home, and the greater his success and the more willing he is to labor, the more like paradise seems the life on the farm to him.

It is not the smart young man, then,

who leaves the farm; but it is the young man who is too lazy to work, too mean to be grateful, too shiftless to have a permanent home anywhere on God's footstool. Occasionally one who is fired with a generous ambition will leave, or whose genius requires his presence in some broader field; but we are satisfied that we have rightly estimated the greatest number of those who leave the farm.

WE would ask the special attention of our readers to the article of our esteemed correspondent, Dr. A. P. Sharp, in present number of the Magazine. The passages quoted from the correspondence of Sir J. B. Lawes seem to confirm the views of Dr. Sharp as to the supply of ammonia necessary for successful crops. If this should prove correct, it will save to the purchasers of fertilizers many thousands of dollars; since this is the most costly element entering into their composition. But read the article and weigh the statements there made. The Dr. is striving to bring the manufacture of fertilizers to the ingredients actually necessary and the expenditure to "rock-bottom prices," for the benefit of all concerned.

INTELLIGENT PERSISTENCE.

Nothing seems more lacking in the farmer's life than the disposition to learn and then to hold fast. We do not mean obstinacy in ignorance, for this is a common trait to all classes and unfortunately the farmers are not exceptions to the general rule with humanity. We mean a settled system of work founded upon knowledge of all the circumstances relating to the work.

We often hear that such a farmer has made a large amount of money from his horse breeding. Another has redeemed

his farm, by his sheep—mutton and wool have lifted his mortgage, given him a good living and enriched his fields. Another has done equally well with his Holstein or Jersey Cattle. Still another has coined money with his acres of small fruits, or his fields of vegetables, or his orchards of apples, pears or peaches. We often hear these things and no doubt they are true.

The fact is that any of these things followed systematically, the “ins” and “outs” thoroughly learned, the whole field intelligently prosecuted, the smallest items carefully studied and practically attended to, will bring to the farmer a safe and regular income upon which he may depend and which will be in a great measure independent of times and seasons.

The great trouble and mistake now is that farmers do not give that persistent attention to any of the departments of agriculture which is absolutely necessary for large success. We would not advise a complete devotion to any one department of work ; but the choosing of one to be learned “root and branch,” while the others shall be carried forward in connexion with it to the very best advantage possible.

It is the intelligent persistence in relation to the chosen field—the field most in harmony with the mind of the individual farmer—which will pay largely in the long run ; but nothing will pay unless from its very inception to the delivery and the receipt of the cash in hand, each and every step is thoroughly well known in a practical way, and systematically carried out.

Regulate the Regulator with Warner's Log Cabin Sarsaparilla. Largest bottle in the market. Manufactured by proprietors of Warner's Safe Cure.

THE COLLEGE.

We cannot afford to allow this number to pass without speaking a word to our readers in behalf of the Maryland Agricultural College. For several reasons we ask our practical farmers to consider what you can do to benefit yourselves or your families and at the same time make this college of substantial value.

1. It is designed to give you, in connexion with the Experiment Station, all information required as to fertilizers adapted to your soil, so that you need not purchase any elements already in your soil, if you would secure from that source a paying crop. It is but too well known that hundreds of thousands of dollars are every year spent by farmers for those ingredients in commercial fertilizers which are not required by their land. But not knowing what is needed, they buy a complete fertilizer, when but one or two items would have been sufficient for all purposes. Remember the College will give you this information and you need only to write to the President to learn all the particulars necessary.

2. The design is, also, to keep the farmers posted in reference to the real value of the fertilizers offered to you whether the proportions are as stated by the manufacturers, and whether they are in a condition to be available as plant food. The best fertilizer houses, such as may be found in our columns, are always glad to have their goods tested and no objection can be made to your being fully satisfied that you are getting that for which you pay out your money.

3. Keep in mind that the College is especially for your use, and to give to your boys—and we hope some day to your girls, also—a thorough knowledge of all things necessary to make successful agriculturists. It is not to give a superficial knowledge of a thousand useless

things, which is too much the case with common schools and colleges; but it is to fit the students for the practical work of the farm-life. It is to add to manual skill a business tact, so that success in farming shall be a certainty, with the minimum of risks. Your advantage consists in making use of the college to the benefit of your family.

4. All its teachings and all its experiments belong to you, if you will be thoughtful enough to make good use of them. We advise every farmer to send to the college, and have your name properly recorded on the books to receive any bulletins or other publications which may be printed for general circulation. Write your name and P. O. address plainly and say, "for bulletins, etc." and send to "Director of Experiment Station, Agricultural College P. O., Md." Funds of the Station will be appropriated for printing and they will come to you through the mail free. It will be a great object to get their bulletins as widely circulated as possible. Their object is to do good to all. They have already outlined for the present year a series of Potato Experiments in addition to experiments with fertilizers. The Potato Experiments include planting large and small whole potatoes; single eye cuts and two eye cuts. The president is enthusiastically devoted to practical farming.

Stock and Sprayed Orchards.

An Illinois subscriber writes: I wish to spray my fruit trees and would like to know whether there will be any danger of poisoning calves or chickens if I use London Purple.

If care is taken not to spill the poison on the ground in quantity, we believe stock can safely be turned in after two or

three washing rains have intervened, but would not advise it before.—*Prairie Farmer.*

Don't use arsenic in the Orchard.—If the stock are kept out, the four or five year old child may get in.

FOOD ADULTERATION.

Our particular attention is called to this subject by a special communication from the *National Farm and Fireside*, of Washington, D. C. The extent of adulteration is truly enormous, and not only is it practiced in the items of butter and lard; but it enters into almost everything which comes from the grocery to our tables. Scarcely can we take up an article either to eat or drink and be certain that it is what it purports to be. Spices are notoriously manipulated, and the prices are regulated by the amount of baseness which can be introduced. Coffees and teas if not purchased from some reliable importing house, or if you are not an expert in the grain, are full of deception. Syrups and molasses are compounds of glucose, which is also introduced into the commercial packages of honey.

How the great public are to be protected from this wholesale manufacturing of artificial food, is a question which can hardly be solved in a single day. Some general law covering all such compounded articles is greatly needed. It will be an endless task to make special laws for each of the multitudinous articles of commerce. We have one for butter; one for lard is now in the process of formation; but these are merely a drop in the bucket! The adulterations in every other department greatly overshadow even these gigantic wrongs. Even the drugs, on the purity of which often hang the lives of our kindred, are scandalously adulterated.

Some general law is needed to check

the headlong career of our reckless manufacturers of foods and drinks; or the general looseness of moral obligation will be the ruin of the country. Already a lack of integrity is visible, and we find ourselves winking at huge wrongs when we should give only the severest words of censure. The old-fashioned sensitiveness for honest integrity and an honorable reputation is at a discount. May we hope that laws may prevent its utter extinction.

PARIS GREEN. ITS USE.

The use of Paris Green in orchards for the destruction of insects which injure fruit and foliage has been discussed quite freely at several of the agricultural conventions the past few months. Paris Green seems to be coming into use in some sections as much in the orchard as in the potato field. Some who have applied it without due caution have killed the foliage and occasionally a cow or horse. Such poisons as Paris green should not be left round carelessly exposed to animals or children who are not informed of its danger.

Some persons are doubtless unnecessarily fearful of having it applied in the garden or field. There are those who have attempted to discard from their tables all potatoes which have been protected by the use of the poison, but the Green is now used so universally on all farms where potatoes are grown and without the least injury to the tubers that the fear is pretty well overcome. It has been found that for potatoes a mixture of pure Paris Green and plaster at the rate of one pound of the former to 200 or 300 pounds of plaster is more effective than if the proportion of Green is greater. If the Green is put on in too large proportion the insects will reject leaves upon which it lies; while if the Green is extended 300 times the leaves

will be eaten more rapidly and thus more of the poison will be taken, though in very small doses. But if eaten in however small quantity the effect seems fatal. In spraying fruit trees with Paris Green water, a Connecticut man applied it strong enough to destroy the insects on the foliage, yet his horse feeding upon the grass underneath the trees was not poisoned.

There is little doubt that cattle might eat potato vines which had been poisoned enough to destroy the beetle without being themselves poisoned. So, too, potatoes in gardens may have the Green applied in a windy day, and peas and beans growing near get slight doses without causing persons eating these vegetables to be poisoned, yet it is hardly safe to utter such statements because of the danger that some one will act too venturesome or fool-hardy in its use. Poisons of this nature like fire are good friends, but by negligence may become among our greatest foes.—*N. E. Farmer.*

Why use Paris Green, or any preparation of Arsenic, when a harmless insecticide (Pyrethrum) will answer just as well, without danger to horses, cows or children?

For the Maryland Farmer.

QUESTIONS.

DEAR SIR:—As I am a subscriber to your valuable journal, I take the liberty of requesting your advice on the following questions:

1. How can willows be destroyed? I skinned the larger ones several years since in August. They died; but have been succeeded by a very numerous offspring.

2. How can wild onions be destroyed? I have a good crop of wheat and have a large quantity of onions in it. I would

like to get clear of them in my next crop.

3. What is the objection to spruce pine railroad ties? My experience is that a spruce pine that will square seven inches (indeed even six inches) will last as long as white oak either in the ground or on it.

4. Could you not prevail on some writer of experience to write a book giving briefly full information in regard to the qualities of our forest trees? What they can be used for profitably. Their lasting nature in the ground or out of it. Indeed all information that can be useful to our people owning forests. I think such a book properly gotten up would sell well.

Your compliance will oblige,

Your obedient servant, H.

1. Only by persistent grubbing.
2. After the wheat is off, plough and turn into the field a flock of sheep.
3. Only prejudice on the part of the Railroad managers.

4. Address Hon. N. J. Colman, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. and request copy of Bulletin No.—noticed in February number—on the durability of our Forest trees for R. R. purposes. This is a partial answer. We leave the suggestion open.

The poultice which draws out a man's virtues is the sod that covers his grave. If you don't want all your virtues known too soon, regulate your regulator with Warner's Log Cabin Sarsaparilla. It makes pure blood, which gives sound health. Largest bottle in market. Manufactured by proprietors of Warner's Safe Cure.

Subscribe to the MARYLAND FARMER, with a premium, only \$1.00 per year.

For the Maryland Farmer.

SOURCE OF NITROGEN.

Many of your readers are aware how long and steadily I have maintained that the artificial application of nitrogen was unnecessary, expensive and impractical; because, if necessary to improve and keep up the soil by supplying nitrogen, the question can well be asked, where are we to obtain the supply? The slaughter houses might supply enough for Delaware, the smallest State; and the nitre beds of the world might supply enough, if all was brought here, for Virginia; and the gas houses enough for another small State. But where will the other poor, worn-out lands obtain a supply? When this doubt about the use of purchased nitrogen was first approached by the writer in your journal and the *Country Gentleman*, it was looked upon as heresy, so much so that other agricultural papers of the country would not permit the subject to be discussed except on the other side of the question—in favor of the ammonia theory. It is true the well paid ammoniacle advertisements may have had something to do in the matter.

The great increase in the use of good fertilizers prove their great value and the heavy decline in price of dried blood, lungs, livers, old leathers, sulphate of ammonia, nitrate of soda, &c., points clearly to the great decline in the use of them. At first it was thought 10 to 15 per cent. ammonia was necessary to give the proper horrible smell to the mixture to make a good fertilizer! That idea has come down to 1 to 1½ per cent. and the bulk sold has no ammonia active or combined in it, and crops have increased; to which fact hundreds of farmers can bear evidence. Plants, all admit, must have a small percentage of nitrogen in them—*very small*, compared with carbon, hydrogen and oxygen; and the bulk of matter

produced by plants does not contain a trace of it—all being carbon hydrate, such as cellulose or wood, starch, sugar, fat, oils, gum, &c. The question before the reader as well as agricultural scientists is, How is it supplied to the soil when land is long tilled? It is conceded by all agricultural writers who have investigated the subject that the natural source of the nitrogen of plants must be nitric acid and ammonia, and to one familiar with the composition of air and water, and the decomposing power of electrical action, it is no difficult task to trace out the cause of the presence of these two chemical compounds in the falling rains, condensing dews and moving atmosphere loaded with moisture. It requires but a slight electrical action to decompose water into hydrogen and oxygen, and until this was done by Cavendish, Davy and others, water was looked upon as a simple body. The air is composed of four-fifths of nitrogen mixed with one-fifth of oxygen and a small percentage of carbonic acid and water. The hydrogen from the water uniting with nitrogen ($N H_3$) forms ammonia. The oxygen with another portion of nitrogen forms nitric acid ($N O_5$). It will be seen that air and water presents the elements of both the compounds from which plants derive their nitrogen and both of these combinations being very soluble in water must find their way to the soil without the aid of man; and when the soil is porous and well drained must reach the roots, along with the other important agent carbonic acid which is equally soluble in water and in a condition to be taken up by the fibrous roots and pass from cell to cell on the road to animal life by the force of the living plant. The movable nature of all these agents point out the mode by which a continued supply is kept up in the soil.

A recent interesting communication

from Sir J. B. Lawes, who is a fair and modest opponent, admitting an error if one is made, states as follows; I quote his words:

"The question which is now agitating the agricultural science of Europe is whether soils become exhausted of the nitrogen or whether there is compensation in some direct or indirect form from the atmosphere? generally speaking most of them who write are in favor of compensation taking place; but they do not agree upon the source."

This has been the theory for which I have long contended, as your valuable columns will bear evidence, and which, as I said before, so many thought was heresy. It is with no little pleasure that I refer to the letter of Sir J. B. Lawes who has done so much in the cause of agriculture and whose experiments are recorded throughout the civilized world, and who is so well known in our country and "a great friend and admirer of our great country"—the latter his. He has advised our farmers to look to the turning under of clover, peas, &c., to secure their nitrogen; and I will add, to *secure carbonaceous matter*, the presence of which must be in all deposits of sand and clay to produce a fertile, productive soil; for the growth of quick growing plants for animal food, as well as cotton and tobacco. In conclusion let me repeat what my esteemed correspondent advises our farmers: "Cease to purchase nitrogen and turn under vegetable matters," be it the green clover, leaves or pine shatters, all will impart life, motion and chemical action in our poor, worn-out soils exhausted by long and neglected abuse in raising corn, cotton and tobacco. *Grass is King.*

Baltimore, Md. A. P. SHARP.

Subscribe to the MARYLAND FARMER, with a premium, only \$1.00 per year.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

GLORIFY THE HOUSE.

Wide open throw the shutters, and
The curtain throw aside,
Let in the sun's bright messengers
In all their golden pride.
What matter if from costly rug
They take the rainbow bloom?
They'll shower gems on it instead,
And glorify the room.

Glad are the tidings that they bring
From wood, and field, and hill,
From singing bird and humming bee,
And little dancing rill.
Before them many shadows fly,
They banish thoughts of gloom;
Then, with a welcome, let them in
To glorify the room.

With them comes health—upon the weak
They many blessings shed,
Their kisses strengthen tired eyes,
And touch pale cheeks with red;
No place too drear for them to seek
Its darkness to illumine;
Thank God that we can let them in
To glorify the room.

—*Vick's Magazine.*

A GOOD SALARY.

We had been married about two years, James and I; and had contrived to be as happy as married couple generally are. James was not rich, but he had a good salary in his uncle's shipping office, and I learned the lesson of economy, and contrived to get along nicely with only one servant.

To be sure Aunt Margaret helped us; but, after all, though she was a good soul and meant well, she was more in the way than otherwise.

"My friend, Mrs. Watson, owns the

sweetest country place up the river," said Aunt Margaret to me one day, in a confidential manner. "Mrs. Watson is going to Europe, and has asked me to stay at her cottage during her absence and look after things a little. And when I mentioned that I was devoted to my niece and her baby she was kind enough to say that it would make no difference if you came here too, for five months, from the first of May to the first of October. And what a splendid thing it would be for the baby to have five months in the country."

"Yes," said I doubtfully; "but James."

"It is only twenty-five minutes by train, and he could come out every evening."

The more Aunt Margaret and I discussed the subject, the more feasible and delightful it appeared to us. We could revel in light, country milk, velvet-mown lawns and fresh butter. Baby's carriage could roll over graveled walks. James could hear the cuckoo sing of a summer twilight, and watch the moon reflected in the streams, and Aunt Margaret and I could be for that once, fine ladies at the head of a great establishment, for all the servants were to remain until the return of their mistress. Veritably, it seemed a delightful idea.

When James came home I could hardly wait to give him the first cup of tea before I told him the story of Mrs. Watson's cottage; Aunt Margaret sitting graciously by, feeling like the fairy godmother who had done it all with one whisk of her enchanted wand.

"Well," quoth I restlessly, when I had finished the recital.

"Well," said James, who by this time had the baby in his lap.

"Of course we'll go."

"Of course we won't," said this impracticable husband of mine.

"James," I cried, "now you are unreasonable. It would be such a fine thing for the baby."

"I don't see but that the baby is doing well enough," retorted James. "Let aunt go if she pleases. I am able to furnish a home for my wife."

"A home! Yes!" cried I indignantly, "a second floor in a musty street that chokes and stifles one."

"You have managed to exist in it for two years," said James, with what seemed to me the most heartless indifference.

I began to cry. Aunt Margaret rose up with a great rustling of black silk and lilac satin cap ribbons.

"I shall certainly accept my friend Mrs. Watson's kind offer," said she with dignity. "Of course, Amy, you will do as you please. And I am going now to pack up. Mrs. Watson is anxious to have me come as soon as possible. And of course, Amy, you will remember that I shall always be glad to receive you and your family as guests at the cottage."

I looked imploringly at James.

"May I go, dear?" pleaded I.

"Of course, if you wish it."

"And will you come too?"

But James shook his head.

"I have some extra work to do for Uncle Joseph. If you go, Amy, you must go alone."

Aunt was loud in her denunciations of husbands in general, and James in particular, when I went into her room.

"I could have told you how it would be before you ever married him," said Aunt Margaret, shaking her head.

"You shall not talk so, aunt," flashed I, "I dare say James is right—only—only—"

And then I vindicated my cause right royally by bursting into tears.

Aunt Margaret went away the next day,

and it seemed lonesome enough. Her manner of going nearly broke my heart. She came in with bonnet and shawl on, long before I thought her ready to leave, and making a sarcastic courtesy, said:

"I wish you joy of such a husband," and then went off without a good-bye kiss.

Oh! how sick I was now of the second floor, of pavements and brick walls. Baby was more fretful than usual, and I easily persuaded myself that he was pining.

"Oh, James," I cried passionately, when at last my husband came home with a tired look, and a roll of paper under his arm, "have we always got to live so?"

"Live how, my darling?"

"Cooped up like rats in a trap, away from all the beautiful sights and sounds of the world, shut up in this dismal house. Can't we live in a place that has at least a little garden to it?"

"I hope we may some time or other, my dear," said James, gravely.

Then he opened his roll of figures, and went to work.

"If James cared for me as he used to care," I told myself, with a feverish impatience, "he would at least make some effort to find a home where I would be happier than in this human hive, where a few flower-pots in the window are all that I have to remind me of the green world outside."

Stung by these reflections, and still further incited by a letter from Aunt Margaret, full of descriptions of lambs, daisies and little streamlets. I one day packed my trunk.

"Halloa," said James, when he came home, "where are you going?"

"To Aunt Margaret for a week's visit. I need it, and so does the baby."

"And leave me?"

I looked at James. He, too, was thinner and paler than usual. Nights of work

and days of counting-house toil were beginning to tell upon him.

"No, no!" I cried, throwing my arms around him, "I won't leave you, dearest; not if I never see the country again."

"That's my own brave little girl," said James. "Wait a week, and I'll take you myself for a little trip."

The day promised came, to my infinite delight, and away we rolled in a comfortable open carriage—James, Bertie and I—until we came to the prettiest bird's nest cottage in the world, only a few miles from town.

"That is just the sort of a house I should like," said I.

"Should you?" said James, laughing, as he drew up the horse in front of the gate. "I'm glad to hear that, because it is your home."

"My home?"

"Yes, little wife. I have not forgotten your likings and longings all this time. Your home."

"But—is it paid for?"

"Every shilling. Uncle Joseph helped me, and night work was well paid. A good garden, Amy, and a place to keep fowls. So you like it—do you?"

My face answered him.

We moved out the following week, and kept our May day among the flowers and birds. And baby grows, and Aunt Margaret has all sorts of trouble with Mrs. Watson's servants, and I am the happiest little wife in all the world.

HOW TO PACK AWAY WOOLENS.—This is the season of the year to pack away woolens. A good plan is to take them out, dust and clean them thoroughly, then take sheets of paper large enough to make a sack that will hold them, paste the sack with mucilage, put in your furs or garments and a piece of gum camphor tied up

in a piece of muslin, or a piece of tarred paper. If paste flour is used there is danger of mice cutting it in eating the paste.

WHERE AMERICAN GIRLS FAIL.

THEY SHOULD STUDY THE GRAMMAR OF HOUSEKEEPING.

Julia Ward Howe says in the *Chautauquan*: At the East a number of single women have no call toward matrimony. At the West young men live as bachelors, or marry quite out of the sphere of their association. I would remedy this state of things by making it not only possible but easy for every pioneer man who goes out into the wilderness to take with him a pioneer woman to whom the ideas of labor and privation shall not be either new or unwelcome. And I would do this by training every young woman, without exception, in the simple tasks and offices of household work.

This training should begin very early in life. A child of five or six years can be taught to bear its little part in the work of the family. It can learn to put its things in order, to restore books and playthings to their places when play and study hours are ended. Its little feet can easily run on errands, and spare to its elders many steps which would be wearisome to them, but which to it are only amusing.

Taste as well as order should be cultivated in children. Good taste is a very valuable and restraining influence in human life, and moral beauties are akin to material ones. Gardening and the gathering and arranging of flowers are helpful for this end. Such study of drawing and color as circumstances will allow is also very useful. But the most important esthetic for the household is that of perfect neatness and order. That beds,

walls, floors and windows should be faultlessly clean is the first requisite for the taste of a good housewife. Children can be led to keep this necessity much in mind. Having secured this honest and healthful foundation, let the little girl be trained to such simple adornment of her surroundings as can be had without additional expense; the best arrangement of the family china, the utilizing of materials already at command, the training of a vine, the setting of a glass of flowers. Such works of art as the home can afford should be carefully chosen, and their merits and meaning should be explained to the little people.

Where pocket money can be allowed the mind of the child should be directed to a good use of it. It can early learn the difference between a generous pleasure and a selfish gratification, and should be taught, in contravention to the drift of the time, to prefer articles of use to articles of mere luxury. Cookery and household chemistry are matters in which it is easy to interest children, and the ignorance of them, which mars the domestic comfort of many a household, marks the neglect of the valuable opportunities which childhood affords for instruction in three important matters.

There is a grammar of housekeeping and domestic life. She who does not become acquainted with it will never be able to command the best comfort which her fortune can afford. To attain this she must acquire a practical understanding of the value of work in time and in money. She should also know the inwardness of the household, so that no one of its many tasks shall be performed in a slovenly and inadequate manner.

VERY pretty sofa cushion covers for the summer parlor may be made of cream-white linen, worked with an all-over

pattern in yellow silk. Another cover for more common use may be made of Turkey-red or of twilled blue stuff to be embroidered with coarse white cotton. Pretty covers are also made of blue linen with diagonal insertions of antique lace on the top; these slips are to be drawn over blue pillows. Crocheted insertions in ecru cotton sewed in diagonally give a very pretty effect with buff linen slips drawn over a red cushion. The bands of linen between the insertions may be feather-stitched or herring-boned in dull red crewels.

BOYS MAKE MEN.

When you see a ragged urchin
 Standing wistful in the street,
 With torn hat and kneeless trousers,
 Dirty face and bare red feet,
 Pass not by that child unheeding;
 Smile upon him. Mark me, when
 He's grown old he'll not forget it;
 For, remember, boys make men.

Have you never seen a grandsire,
 With his eyes aglow with joy,
 Bring to mind some act of kindness—
 Something said to him, a boy?
 Or, relate some slight or coldness,
 With a brow all clouded, when
 He recalled some heart too thoughtless
 To remember boys make men?

Let us try to add some pleasure
 To the life of every boy;
 For each child needs tender interest
 In its sorrow and its joy.
 Call our boys home by its brightness;
 They avoid the household, when
 It is cheerless with unkindness,
 For remember, boys make men.

To set the black in home-colored woolen goods so it will not smut, soak the colored goods or wool over night in sweet milk, wring it out and dry, then rinse well through water, and the color will be as fast as it can be.

GIRLS IN THE GARDEN.

If there is any one thing more beautiful than another in a garden of flowers, that thing is a beautiful girl, with a sunbonnet on her head so wide and capacious that you have to get right square before her, and pretty near her, to see the glowing cheeks that are sure to be there if she is at all accustomed to garden walks and works. Physically, there can be nothing better for daughters, and, indeed, for many wives, than to take sole charge of a small flower garden. The benefits derived from early rising, stirring the soil, snuffing the pure morning air are freshness and glow of cheek and brightness of eye, cheerfulness

of temper, vigor of mind and purity of heart. Consequently, she must be more cheerful and lovely as a daughter, more dignified and womanly as a sister, and more attractive and confiding as a wife. If you have not the dooryard ground, then get a dozen pots and plant the seeds of flowers to your taste. The care and attention required to rear and train the growing plants occupies the mind, to the exclusion, oftentimes, of senseless novel reading—a senseless waste of time. You listless, pale-faced, fragile thing of a girl, throw off your mock delicacy, put on gloves if you will, but work in the garden till your cheeks vie in color with the blush of the rose you cultivate.—*Vick's Magazine*.

THE KITCHEN.

RECIPES.

BY AZILE.

FRESH MACKEREL.

Few fish are better than our Chesapeake Bay mackerel when properly cooked and served. I will venture to give one or two good methods of preparing them for the table. It is to be remembered that in every case they should be well cleaned and after thorough washing, dried with a soft cloth that will absorb the water.

FRIED.

A hot frying pan, with a liberal lump of butter. Split the fish on the back.

Place the mackerel the flesh side down in the pan over a hot fire, moving the pan so that the fish will not adhere to it and scorch.

When sufficiently browned turn the fish over and allow the skin to be thoroughly browned also.

Place on a hot dish flesh side up, sprinkle with salt and pepper and allow a

few lumps of good sweet butter to melt upon the surface. Serve hot.

BROILED.

Place the mackerel between the bars of the gridiron, and hold flesh side down over hot coals until beautifully browned.

Turn and hold the skin side over the coals until thoroughly crisp and brown.

Season and serve as in the case of the fried mackerel.

BAKED.

Mackerel for baking should not be split on the back; but cleaned just as thoroughly.

Make a dressing as for poultry, to which add two or three lumps of butter and a little sage, seasoning well.

Fill the fish and sew up, and bake in a moderately-hot oven—dredging with flour and salt. Garnish with hard boiled eggs and serve with drawn butter.

SALAD.

Boil the mackerel and free it from

bones. Take equal parts of fish and celery to make three pints.

Mix a cup of butter, a tablespoonful of mustard, a tablespoonful of sugar, the yolks of two hard boiled eggs rubbed smooth, salt and pepper to suit, and half a teacup of vinegar. Pour this over the celery and fish.

* * *

BRASING.

The word "braise" means to cook meat slowly in a closely covered pan in the oven, the pan containing sufficient water to keep up a goodly quantity of steam. The meat should be placed in the bottom of the pan, the pan partly filled with boiling water; a teaspoonful of salt added, a sliced onion, a carrot, sprig of parsley, and a bay leaf, if liked. Now cover the pan closely and place on the bottom of a moderately-hot oven, and bake or cook fifteen minutes to every pound of meat, basting every half hour. Meat thus cooked should be of a delicate brown, juicy and tender. You cannot roast in a braising-pan—meat is always dry and tasteless. A brown sauce should be made from browned butter and flour and the liquor from the bottom of the braising-pan. No more delightful dish can possibly be served than a braised fresh beef's tongue. * * * The following list of meats are desirable for braising: A leg of mutton, a fowl, a shoulder of mutton, the upper round of beef, fillet of veal, which makes that delicious fricandeau, calf's or sheep's liver, and a fresh ham.

Cement to Mend Iron Pots and Pans.

Take two parts of sulphur and one part, by weight, of fine black lead; put the sulphur in an open iron pan, holding it over the fire until it begins to melt, then add the lead; stir well until all is mixed

and melted; then pour out on an old iron plate or smooth stone. When cool, break into small pieces. A sufficient quantity of this compound being placed upon the crack of the iron pot to be mended, can be soldered by a hot iron in the same way a tinsmith solders his sheets. If there is a small hole in the pot drive a copper rivet in it, and then solder over it with this cement.

Hints for Canning.

The time for cooking and amount of sugar needed for different varieties of fruit are given below. If a common tablespoon is used the sugar should be heaped:

Boil raspberries four minutes; eight spoonfuls of sugar to the quart.

Boil plums ten minutes; eight spoonfuls of sugar to the quart.

Boil blackberries six minutes; six spoonfuls of sugar to the quart.

Boil cherries five minutes; the amount of sugar to the quart is six spoonfuls.

Boil ripe currants four minutes; amount of sugar to a quart, eight spoonfuls.

Boil peaches, whole, fifteen minutes, using six spoonfuls of sugar to a quart.

Boil whortleberries five minutes; the amount of sugar to a quart jar, four spoonfuls.

Boil Siberians, or crab-apples, whole, twenty-five minutes; eight spoonfuls of sugar to a quart.

Boil pears from twenty to thirty minutes—twenty for halves and thirty for whole pears—using six spoonfuls of sugar to a quart can of fruit.

HOW TO CLEAN A RUSTY TEA KETTLE.

—Oyster or clam shells kept in a tea-kettle will prevent it from rusting, but to get the rust off take a cup of unslacked lime and put into the kettle; fill up with

boiling water, and let it stand on back of the stove for several hours. Now pour back and forth, through spout, a number of times, so that every part of the kettle shall be covered with this limewater. Let it settle, which it will soon do—all the lime sinking to the bottom. Pour off the rusty water, fill with fresh water, and repeat this process for a day or two, when it will be found that the water pours off perfectly clear. Now place three or four oyster or clam shells in the kettle, and there should be no future trouble.

PRINTED menus for private dinner parties are entirely obsolete. They are now written with a quill in blue ink on a heavy card which may have a bow of ribbon in the upper left hand corner. Royalty set the fashion at the Continental resorts last summer.

SPECIAL MENTION.

Jewelry.

One of the oldest houses in this city of Baltimore is that of A. E. Warner, now located on Baltimore St. near Calvert. It can scarcely be realized that during a period of 77 years this house has been supplying the people with what they most needed in all those various departments pertaining to the Jewelry business. So long a career, marked by a sterling integrity, as to the character of their goods, is a guarantee to all who would purchase of them. Our own experience in dealing with them warrants us in giving them high commendations, and we very cordially recommend our readers to give them a call when their goods are desired.

A. Young & Son.

In consequence of fire, and the falling walls upon the store occupied by the above firm, they have been forced to remove their stock from their old quarters temporarily, until rebuilt. They will be found on the North side of Pratt St., No. 6, directly opposite their former store. Now is the time for all their former customers, and hosts of new ones, to bring them sub-

stantial patronage to help them through this great disaster. Everything in the line of Paints and Brushes, Oils, Glass and Varnishes—in fact Painter's Supplies in great variety—can be had of them. Their present location is the North side of Pratt St., just West of Charles.

Furniture.

The spring furnishing should no longer be delayed, and the enterprising house Hartman & Dunbracco, 222 West Baltimore Street, will give you perfect satisfaction. They can show you the very finest work, and their prices will be found low enough to astonish you, when quality is considered. As we look upon their goods, we are tempted to add to our already overcrowded rooms.

Lumber.

This is the time, as soon as the Spring work lightens a little on the farm, to get the supply of lumber, for all the odd jobs which are constantly coming up on the home premises. We know of no better yard for this supply than that of our

advertisers, J. Carey King & Co., Cathedral and Biddle Streets. Every description of Lumber is kept by them, and the prices are such as will satisfy their customers.

Leaky Roofs.

In the present day it is wholly unnecessary for any of our buildings to be leaky in the roof. Roofing of the very best qualities can be had so very cheaply, and it is put in place so easily and rapidly with the farmer's hands, if skilled labor is not at once obtained. The Baltimore Coal Tar and Manufacturing Co., 16 West Camden St., supply Roofing which is unrivalled for all the ordinary purposes of farm buildings, and it will pay those who need it to visit them and get particulars and prices of their goods. The next best thing to a visit will be to send for prices and circulars.

Decorative Art.—Riddle & Williams.

This firm have at their establishment, 124 N. Howard St., on exhibition many fine High Art Tiles, which will delight those who can appreciate first class goods in this line. Their Slate and Wood mantles, their floor tiles and various articles of household use, imported and American, invite examination. Some of the best and most extensive builders in Baltimore have used their goods, among whom we could mention, W. L. Stork, Jos. M. Cone, Smith & Schwartz, A. L. Gorter & Co. Their tile work may be seen in the new Baltimore Post Office, the Cathedral, Lilly, Rogers & Co's Drug Store, St. Ignatius Church, Ex-Gov. Hamilton's Hotel, at Hagerstown, State House, Columbia, S. C., and in many other public buildings here and elsewhere.

Lewis Roesch's Nursery.

FREDONIA, N. Y.

Early in the season we received unexpectedly three grape vines from this establishment, a free gift from a generous giver. We placed them in our home yard, and they are thriving. By a system of his own Mr. Roesch has contrived to prolong the period of planting, so that any nursery stock from him may be safely ordered far into June, and it will with ordinary care make a fine growth this summer. Correspond with him.

BEST POULTRY FOOD.

Hollis Dressed Meat and Wool Co.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir: The canned meat came to hand all right. I have been feeding it carefully to my hens with marked success. I consider it the best meat food I have ever used to make hens lay during confinement in cold weather. I am going to try it on my chicks; I think it is just what they need.

JAMES RANKIN.

South Easton, Mass., March, 8, 1888.

This is one of those honest made preparations that sells on its merits, wherever known, and a trial of the goods will convince you of this fact. Prices, 30 cents per can; \$3 per dozen. HOLLIS DRESSED MEAT & WOOL CO., 22 North St., Boston, Mass.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.

Wesleyan Female Institute, Staunton, Va.

The Commencement Exercises of the Wesleyan Female Institute, Staunton, Va. commence Friday, June 1st, 1888, 8 P. M., with the Annual Address before the Lee and Jackson, Literary Society, by Dr. W. W. Smith, President of Randolph Macon

College, Va. The Art exhibition on Saturday evening. Sunday, 11 A. M., Commencement Sermon by Rev. W. V. Tudor, D. D., of Norfolk, Va., and 8 P. M. Annual Sermon before the Young Ladies' Christian Association, by Rev. H. H. Kennedy, of Martinsburg, W. Va. On Monday evening will be the Final Soiree of Vocal and Instrumental Music, and on Tuesday evening the Final Exercises, Awarding Distinctions, Conferring Degrees, Diplomas, etc. Calisthenic Drill, etc. WM. A. HARRIS, President.

DE LESSEPS is quite confident that his Panama Canal will be completed in three years: other men who are acquainted with the Isthmus, declare that the two oceans can never be united at that point. Well, time will tell. We have long ceased to pronounce any project impossible. For thousands of years people suffered life-long misery from diseases which were supposed to be "visitations of God," but which are now known to be the result of impure blood. The old doctors consider such diseases impossible of cure, and not a few modern ones have shared that opinion; but what can sceptics say in view of the record of Ayer's Sarsaparilla, in the cure of blood diseases, during the past quarter of a century? Instances are innumerable of cases which defied all other treatment, but yielded, in a brief time, to a course of Ayer's Sarsaparilla—a conclusive proof that no other alterative medicine has equal curative power.

FARM life has its bright and dark sides, its sunshine and shadows, but I believe of all the different occupations of men the farmer's is the happiest, the grandest and best.

SUMMER TOURS.

Round-trip excursion tickets at low rates are now on sale via the Burlington Route, C., B. & Q. R. R., from Chicago, Peoria and St. Louis to Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Salt Lake City, Ogden, St. Paul, Minneapolis, and resorts West and Northwest. The "Burlington" is the only line running sleeping cars from Chicago to Denver without change. It is the only line by which you can go from Chicago to Denver and be out one night on the road. It is the picturesque line to St. Paul and Minneapolis. It runs daily "fast trains" to Kansas City, St. Joseph, Atchison, Council Bluffs, Omaha, Lincoln, Cheyenne and Denver. Fine Government Lands are located on its new lines in Nebraska. It is the best line by which to reach all principal land points in the West and Northwest. Tickets via the Burlington Route can be obtained of coupon-ticket agents of connecting lines. Send in postage to Paul Morton, Gen. Pass. and Ticket Agent C., B. & Q. R. R., Chicago, Ill., four cents for a copy of the Burlington Route Guide, or six cents for an illustrated book about Colorado and the Garden of the Gods.

MESSRS. GEORGE W. SCOTT & Co., Atlanta, offered premiums for the largest yield of corn and cotton on five acres of land. One farmer made on five acres 7,898 pounds of lint cotton, which is practically four bales to the acre of 400 pounds each. Five farmers made over 6,000 pounds, each to the five acres. One farmer made 495 bushels of clean-shelled corn on the five acres, and two other farmers made over 450 on the same amount of ground.

IF the amount taken to feed the worthless dogs of this State was expended in making our homes more comfortable and attractive it would soon become a land of contentment and beautiful homes.

Subscribe to the MARYLAND FARMER, with a premium, only \$1.00 per year.

Books, Catalogues, &c.

From the Consul of the Netherlands, Hon. Chas. Vocke, we are favored with Part 1st, of the *Pedigree Register of the Frisian Herd-Book*. Excellent for consultation.

Frank Leslie's *Popular Monthly* with chromo of the Three Little Fishers. The June number opens with an entertaining article by Mrs. Frank Leslie, Summer Saunterings in Spanish San Sebastian. It has an interesting variety.

Harper's Magazine, both in artistic features and in its contents, is pervaded by the spirit of the month for which it is issued. Seldom do we find a more perfect adaptation to time of issue than in Harper's Publications. By the way, we see a decided leaning lately in all these periodicals of the Harper Brothers to the side of Cleveland politically.

The *Bulletins* from the *Experiment Stations* begin to visit us, and they are welcome. We only hope they will reach every home for the benefit of which they have been established by the government.

From the Department of State *Technical Education in Europe*, also *Budget Legislation*. We are pleased with the *Special Issues* of consular reports from this department. They are more entertaining than when they come in bulk.

The *Delineator*, from the Butterick Publishing Co., of N. Y., is among the first of the June books to visit us. It will remind the ladies of necessary summer "fixings."

From the Commissioner, the Report of the *Louisiana Department of Agriculture* for April and up to the first of May.

The *Horticultural Art Journal*, gives four beautiful plates with black background in its May number: Plate, No.

1.—Verbena, Swan River Daisy, Forget-me-not, Zinnia. No. 2.—Single Dahlia, Poppy, Aster, Petunia. No. 3.—Four varieties of German Pansies. No. 4.—English Daisies, Mignonette, Chrysanthemums, Pinks. This is a superb number, worth a dollar rather than 25 cts. \$3.00 will secure it a year and this magazine, also.

Catalogue of the St. Johnsville Agricultural Works, N. Y. Manufacturers of Horse Powers, Threshers, and Agricultural Machinery generally. Fully illustrated.

Proceedings of 2d Annual Session of the *Louisiana State Agricultural Society*, comes to us from the Commissioner of the State Bureau of Agriculture.

From the U. S. Department of Agriculture on preparing and applying *Remedies for Plant Diseases*.

From Boomer & Boschert Press Co. Syracuse, N. Y. *Catalogue* of Presses for Cider, Lard, Tallow, &c. Illustrated.

From D. H. Burrell & Co. Little Falls, N. Y., an elaborate Catalogue of everything in the line of Cheese Factory and Creamery Supplies. Plans of building and lists of the necessary apparatus, with prices.

ONE of the very finest calendars of this year, comes to us from Smith & Wesson, Springfield, Mass. It is an exceedingly perfect engraving—a landscape in the foreground of which stands a full length figure, with one of their celebrated revolvers in position.

Ogilvie's Popular Reading, No. 42. It is hardly possible to get together such an amount of entertaining stories for 30 cts. as come in this mammoth publication. If it is not readily to be had in your neighborhood, send stamps to J. S. Ogilvie, N. Y.